

**Crude Oil Futures and Options Contracts  
Total Open Interest, NYMEX  
January 1996 - April 2008**

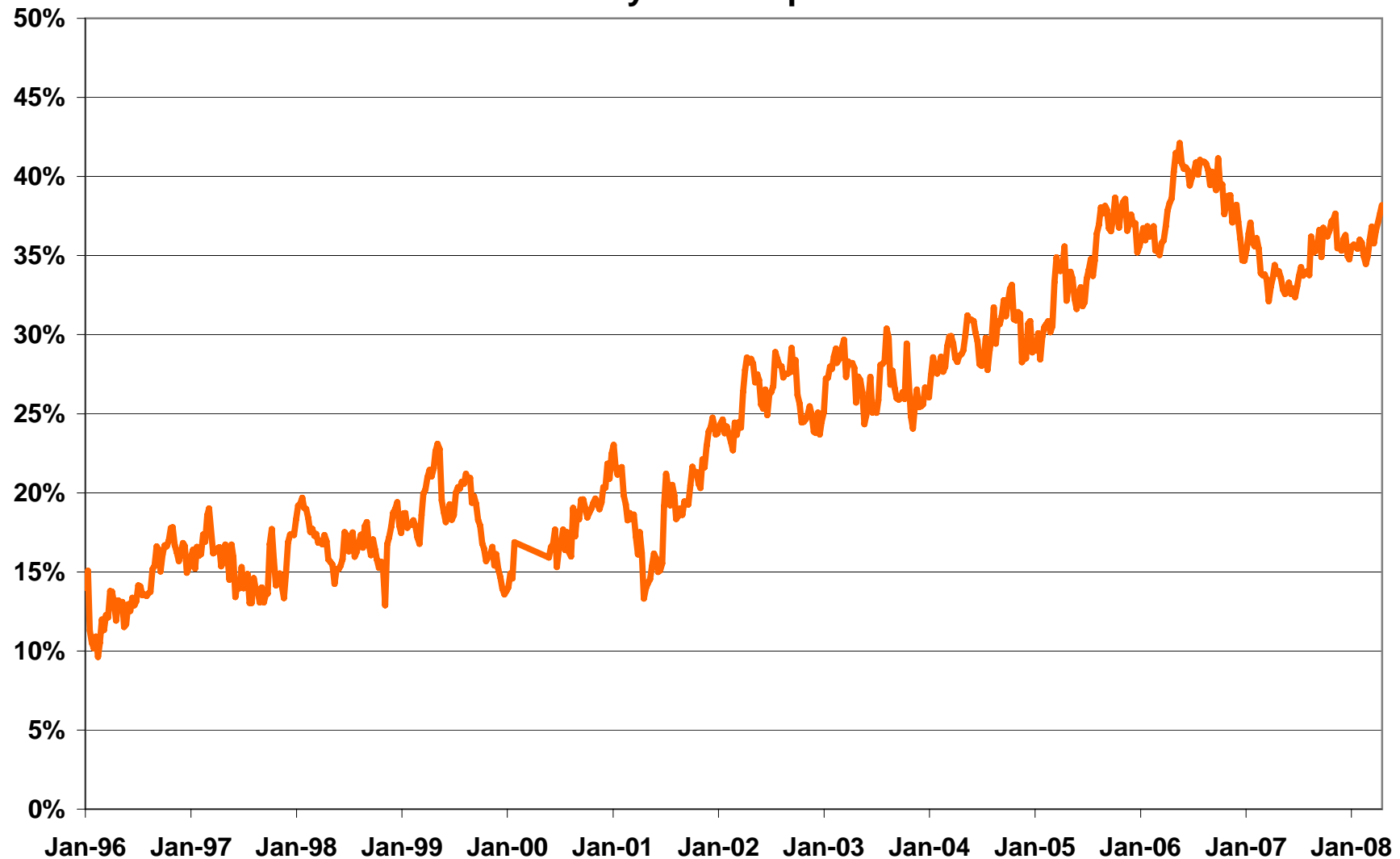


Data source: CFTC

Chart prepared by: Majority staff,

Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

**Speculative Interest in Crude Oil  
(Percent of Open Interest Held by Speculators)  
January 1996 - April 2008**

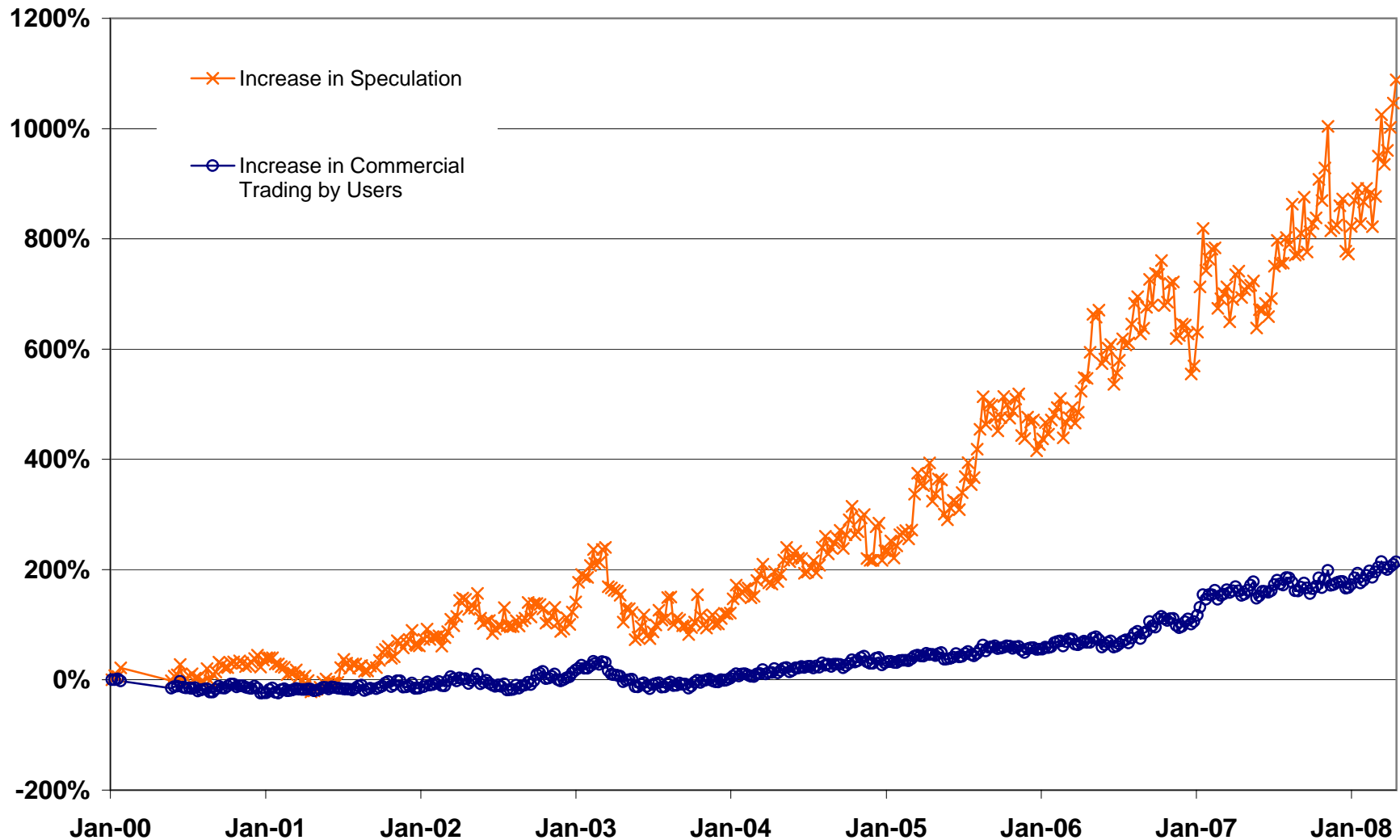


*Data source: CFTC  
Chart prepared by: Majority staff,  
Senate Permanent Subcommittee on  
Investigations*

# Increase in Crude Oil Trading and Speculation on NYMEX

## January 2000 - April 2008

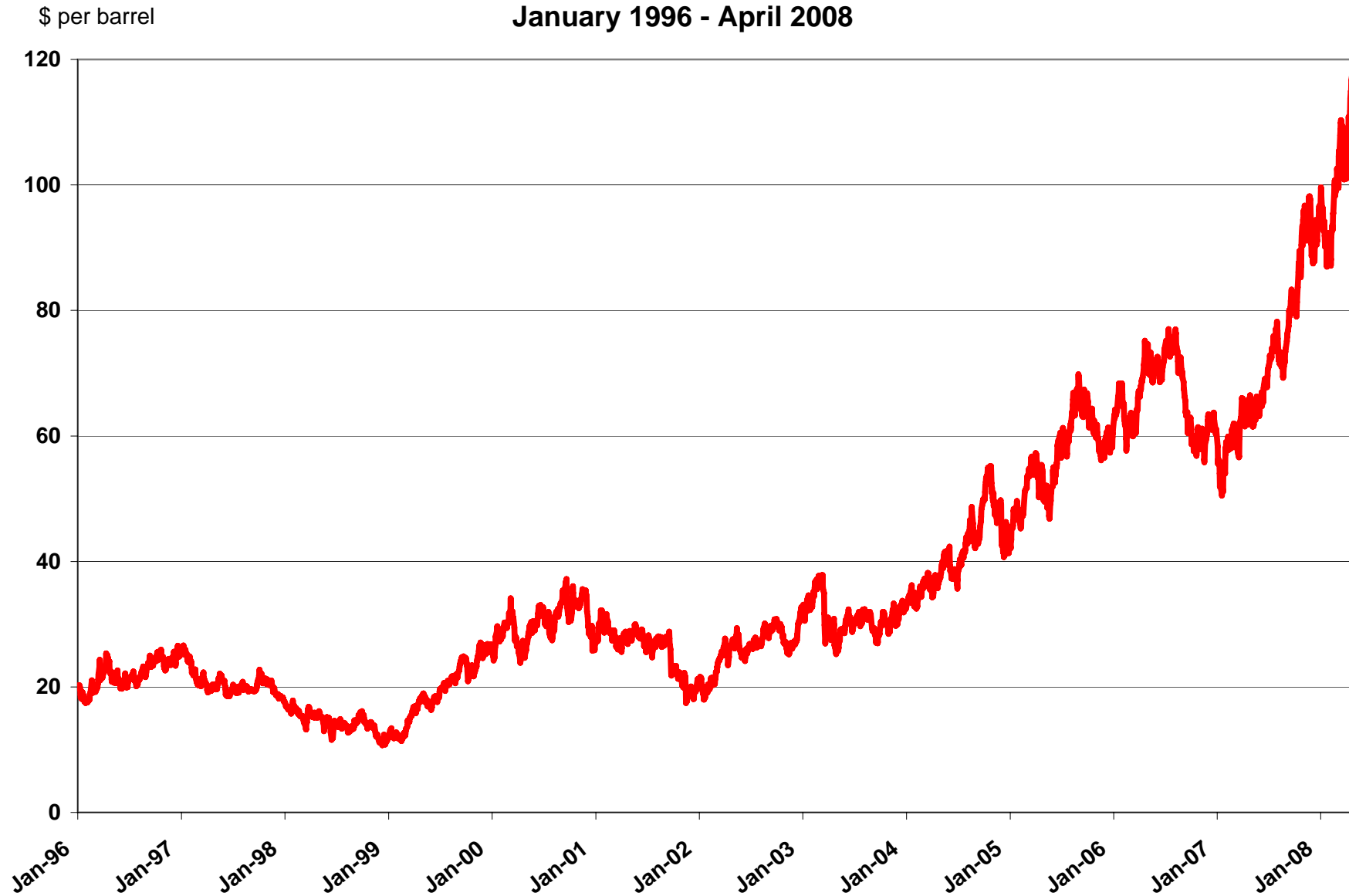
Increase in Total Open Interest,  
Futures and Options



Data source: CFTC

Chart prepared by: Majority staff,  
Senate Permanent Subcommittee on  
Investigations

**Crude Oil Prices  
(NYMEX 1st Month Contract)  
January 1996 - April 2008**



Data source: EIA  
Chart prepared by Majority Staff,  
Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations